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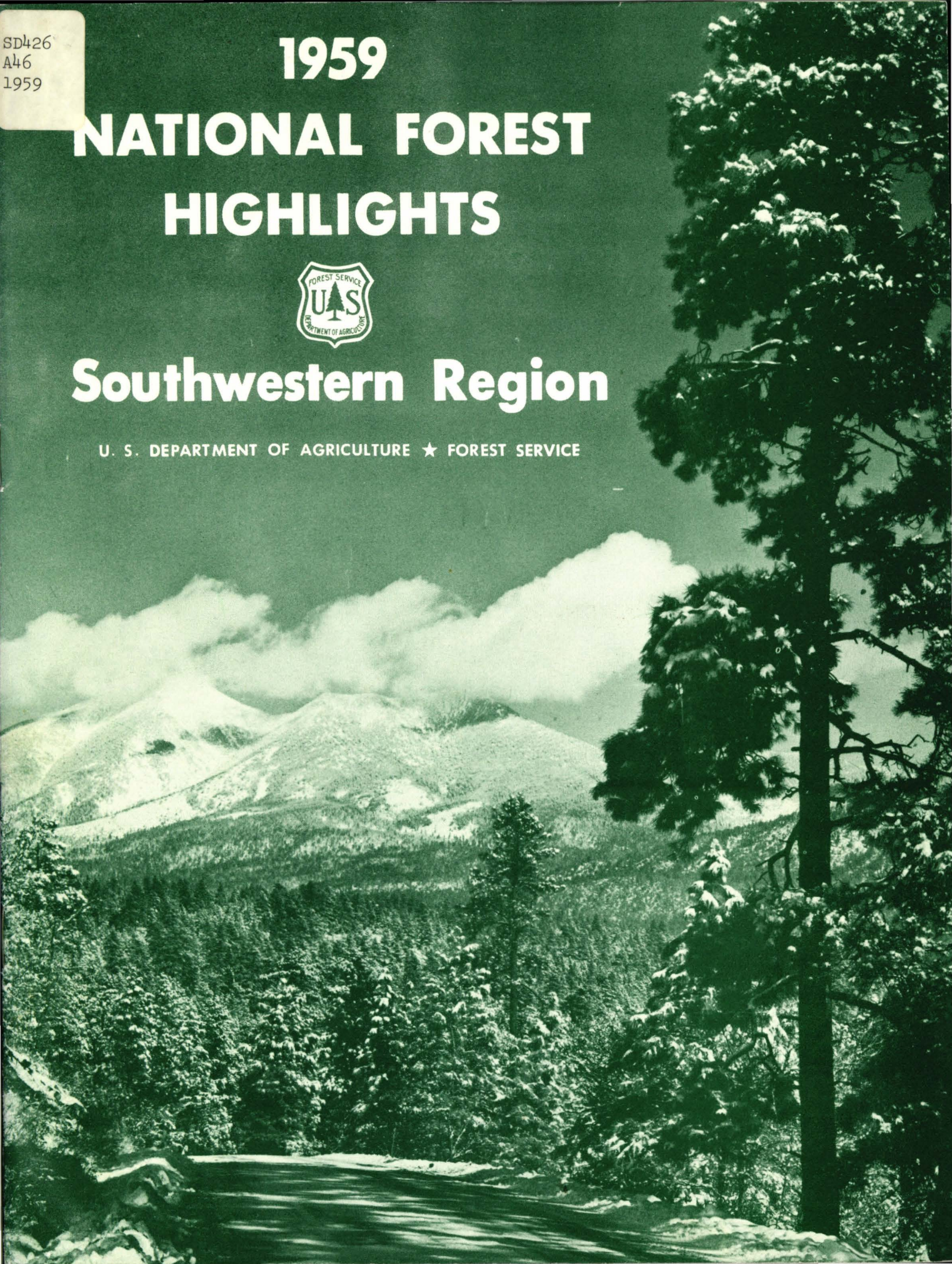
1959 NATIONAL FOREST HIGHLIGHTS

Southwestern Region

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ★ FOREST SERVICE



WATER
WILDLIFE
USES
OF
Your
NATIONAL
FORESTS
FORAGE
RECREATION
WOOD

1959 NATIONAL FOREST HIGHLIGHTS

SOUTHWESTERN REGION

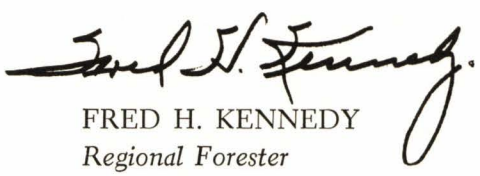
This booklet summarizes the progress made in 1959 by the Forest Service in administering the 20 million acres of National Forest lands located in Arizona and New Mexico.

Since the Forest Service was established back in 1905, it has promoted sustained yield forestry under multiple-use management. Underlying these conservation objectives is the aim to make the National Forests serve "the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run."

The Southwestern National Forests are not single-use properties. They are important sources of water, recreation, wildlife, wood and range — vital renewable natural resources which can be produced forever, if managed wisely.

The fast-growing population of the Southwest is making increasing demands on the goods and services provided by the National Forests and this is resulting in serious conflicts of land use. Some people want to use National Forests for one purpose, while others want them for a different purpose. Here we have conflicts that must be resolved for the best interest of all Americans.

If the National Forests are to continue to serve increasing numbers of people in the Southwest it is essential that we manage these public forests more intensively and that we make multiple use work on as many acres as possible. To achieve this objective, we must have wider understanding among the public as to what multiple use is. For public understanding and support are essential to its successful application.



FRED H. KENNEDY
Regional Forester

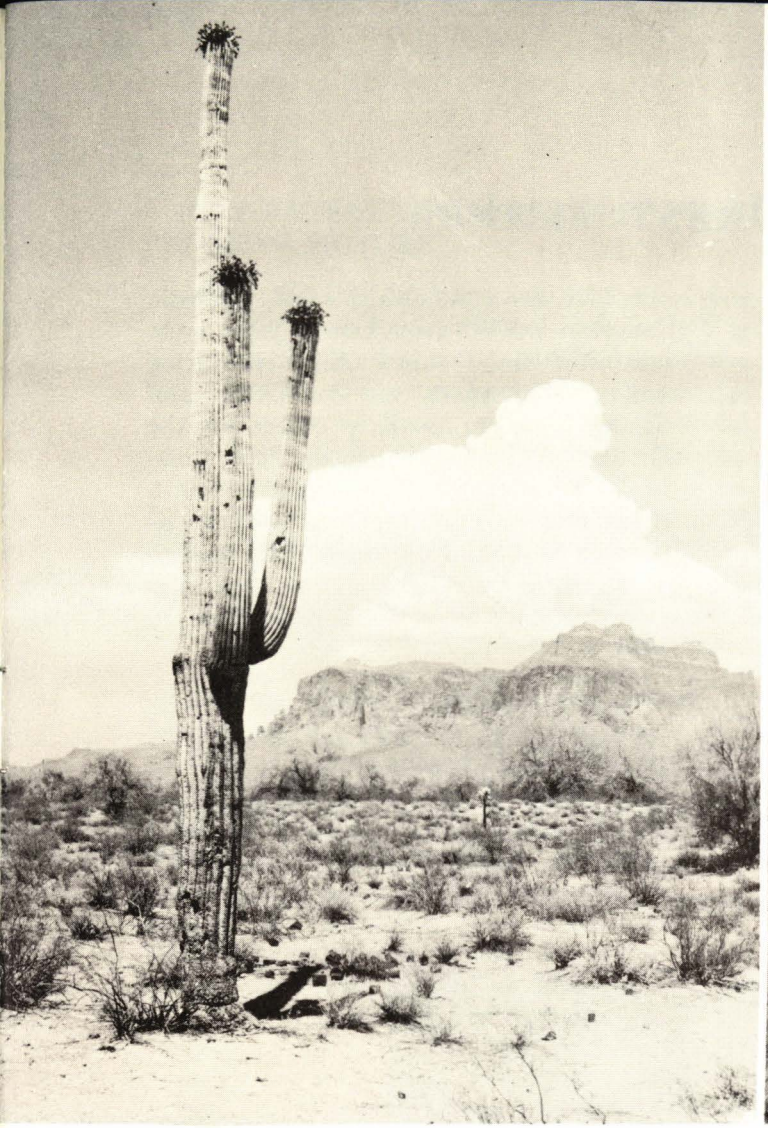
NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION

In 1959 the Forest Service . . .

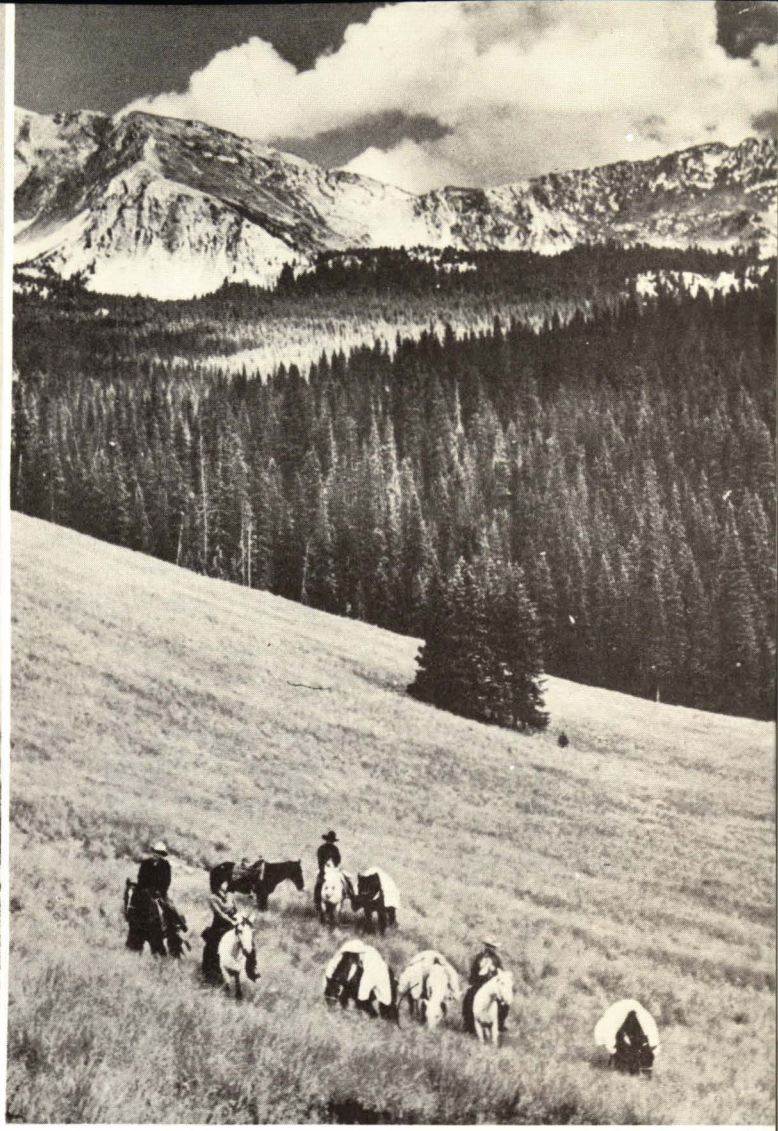
. . . started the Southwestern part of the National Forest Outdoor Recreation Resources Review, a comprehensive inventory of National Forest lands which are suitable for all types of forest recreation. This review, called the NFORRR, includes estimates of the types and volume of recreation demand which will occur on the National Forests in the next 40 years. Here in the Southwest an increase in annual recreation visits is anticipated from the present six million to almost 70 million visits by the year 2000.

. . . further developed the recreation sites at Pena Blanca, Riggs Flat and Rose Canyon lakes on the Coronado National Forest. State and county agencies participated in various phases of the work. These developments greatly increased the free year-round forest recreational opportunities available in southern Arizona. Woods Canyon Lake Recreation Area on the Sitgreaves National Forest, in central Arizona, is another new development which is providing recreational pleasures to a large number of National Forest visitors. Some progress was made on recreation development in the Four Lakes area on the Tonto National Forest. During the year the Forest Service constructed, expanded, or rehabilitated more than 35 recreation sites on the National Forests of the Southwest, sites containing some 400 family camp or picnic units.

. . . saw the opening of a major ski area in part on the Carson National Forest at Red River. A complete survey was also made of winter sports development possibilities on Sierra Blanca Recreation Area, Lincoln National Forest. A detailed prospectus was offered inviting bids for the development of this winter sports facility on the most southerly 12,000 foot peak in the continental United States.



Superstition Wilderness Area, Tonto National Forest, Arizona



Pecos Wilderness Area, Santa Fe National Forest, New Mexico

NATIONAL FOREST WILDERNESS

The National Forests of the Southwest include fourteen Wilderness, Wild and Primitive Areas — such as the famous Gila, Pecos and Superstition Wilderness Areas — totalling 1.7 million acres. These roadless areas are preserved in their natural state so that you and your grandchildren may see the rugged wilderness as the pioneers saw it, that you may enjoy the solitude, spiritual refreshment and wilderness hunting which only National Forest Wilderness can provide.

During 1959 the Forest Service, at the request of the New Mexico State Legislature and other interested people, gave thorough consideration to the establishment of an additional Wild Area in the spectacular Wheeler Peak country of the Carson National Forest. The proposed area would be 6051 acres of alpine peaks including several lakes, the headwater drainages of the Red River and Rio Hondo and 13,160 foot Wheeler Peak, highest point in New Mexico. The proposed establishment was advertised and announced in the press and a six-month period given to consideration of public response or reaction to the matter. After careful study of the proposal, the Southwestern Region recommended in favor of the new Wheeler Peak Wild Area and submitted its report to the Chief of the Forest Service for approval.

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER

SALES

Timber harvesting continued at a high level in 1959 in the Southwestern Region. Some 330 million board feet of National Forest timber valued at $2,599,000 was cut and hauled out to 200 privately-owned mills to be made into lumber worth $27 million wholesale. Additional National Forest timber amounting to 300 million board feet was sold or inventoried ready for sale in 1960.

PLANS AND SURVEYS

Revised timber management plans were completed on three important timber producing units, or working circles. These comprehensive plans provide for increases in the allowable cut of sawtimber in the areas concerned from 57.5 to 65 million board feet in line with National Forest efforts to double the nation's timber production through more intensive forestry in the next 40 years — to meet America's anticipated needs in the year 2000. Inventories which supply the basic data for timber management plans were completed on 3 other timber producing units of the region, the Zuni-Grants and Sandia - Manzano working circles on the Cibola National Forest, and the Pecos working circle on the Santa Fe National Forest. Inventories were also begun on 3 of the remaining 10 working circles for which modern area and volume data are not available. Completion of all of these is expected by 1962.

Special surveys made for specific products include ones made of utility pole and railroad tie potentials in specific areas. On the Prescott National Forest, Arizona, it was found that an annual cut of 25,000 poles and a substantial number of ties could be harvested on a sustained-yield basis from the forest's largest timber-producing unit. A prospective purchaser is now planning to build a pole and tie treating plant near the city of Prescott to use this material.

PULP ENTERS THE SOUTHWEST TIMBER PICTURE

1959 also saw the beginnings of a wood-pulp industry in the Southwest, an industry long sought by the Forest Service to improve forestry and reduce forest products waste in commercial forests of both the National Forests and private timber lands. This beginning came in the form of final award for the sale of six million cords of National Forest pulp timber (equivalent to 3 billion board feet) made in early December to Southwest Forest Industries, Inc. of Phoenix. This sale, the largest Forest Service timber sale ever made in the continental United States, is to be consummated over a 30-year period and means the green light for a 400-man paper plant to be built near Snowflake, Arizona, by 1963 and for 400 additional jobs in the woods cutting and hauling out the stems. This new industry will use small and low quality ponderosa pine and other species not suitable for sawlogs and will make possible the profitable thinning of extensive timber stands of the Apache, Cibola, Coconino, Kaibab, Sitgreaves and Tonto National Forests. This thinning will spur the growth of the better trees and improve their sawlog quality while it reduces fire hazards, wasteful thickets and the losses heretofore occurring in sawtimber tree tops, edgings and slabs. It will also open up many areas to better hunting, more accessible fishing, and improve grazing conditions.

Also in the pulp field, 1959 saw the Forest Service complete a special survey of potential pulp material in the northern Coconino National Forest. This showed that an estimated 40,000 cords could be removed annually on a sustained-yield basis, or nearly 3 times as much material as previous estimates indicated. Whether this fact will lead to another pulp mill in the Flagstaff vicinity is not yet known.

INSECT CONTROL

TUSSOCK MOTH: This pest, a newcomer to the Region, spreads rapidly and in the larvae form completely strips and kills infested trees and may wipe out in a single season large stands of valuable trees that have taken hundreds of years to grow. Hence, when the tussock moth moves in, timber managers must move fast to keep

him under control. To do this the Forest Service in 1959 contracted the aerial spraying of some 30,500 acres in the Cibola, Lincoln and Tonto National Forests.

BLACK HILLS BEETLE: This is a continuing maintenance job on the Tres Piedras District of the Carson National Forest. Only about four trees per square mile are infested. When these very few are found, they must be felled, bucked and sprayed to control this insect. One hundred thirty trees were so treated this year.

ALSO IN 1959 (Fiscal Year)

11,128 acres received release cuttings and thinning.

39,508 acres were given crop tree pruning. Intensive porcupine control was accomplished on 380,000 acres.

NATIONAL FOREST LIVESTOCK GRAZING

In 1959 . . .

. . . National Forests provided forage for 226,000 cattle and 141,000 sheep.

. . . 5,649 acres of sagebrush were cleared and reseeded to desirable forage species.

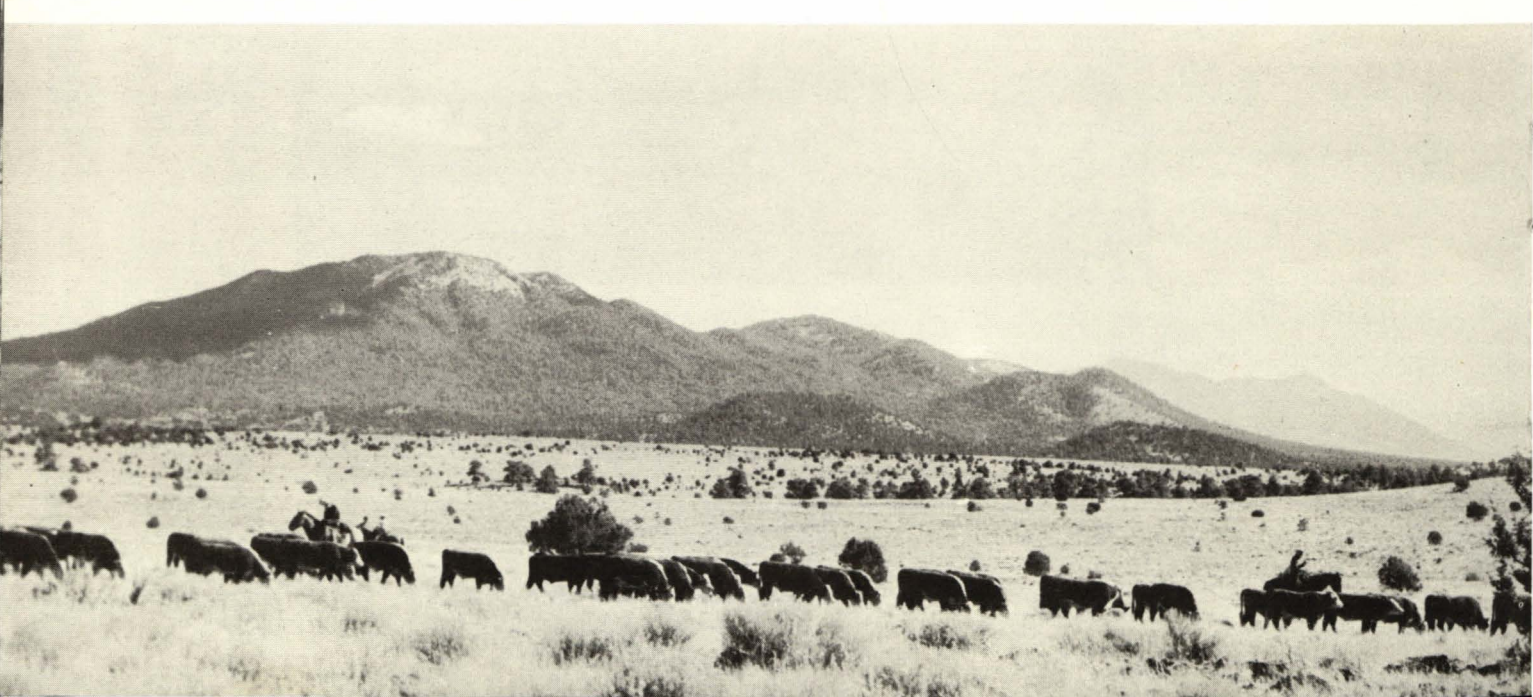
. . . 52,000 acres of other noxious plants were cleared (mostly juniper with some pinyon and mesquite). About 21,000 of these acres were reseeded to grasses and other forage species. Reseeding burned over areas and miscellaneous other reseeding done to improve the range amounted to 3300 acres.

. . . Over 150 miles of new fence (at an average cost of $1000 a mile) were built on the National Forest grazing allotments to improve management of the grazing animals. These jobs were done by the Forest Service or by cooperating stockmen-permittees, often with it being a joint effort.

. . . More than 200 new stock watering places were developed in the same way.

. . . National Forest grazing advisory boards in both Arizona and New Mexico continued to be active; and progress was made towards a mutual understanding and appreciation of problems and objectives.

The Forest Rangers in managing National Forest rangelands carry out the Congressional policy of making available for use the forage resources of the National Forests while attempting to avoid over-grazing or serious interference with the other important uses of the public's land. The object is to make it possible for individual stockmen to produce the maximum of meat, hides, and wool without abusing the watersheds and range lands.



NATIONAL FOREST WILDLIFE

In 1959 the Southwestern Region was the home of an estimated 246,000 deer (mostly Rocky Mountain mule deer with some desert muleys, Texas white-tailed, and Sonoran white-tailed). Also living in the National Forests were about 10,000 antelope, the same number of elk, 2700 black bear, 300 bighorn sheep, some 12,000 javelina and 38,000 wild turkey. Providing a variety of fishing are 2000 miles of fishing streams (mostly trout waters) and about 38,000 acres of lakes almost entirely stocked by the State Game and Fish Departments.

The State of New Mexico alone estimates that hunting and fishing generate annually some $43,000,000 worth of business in the State. Arizona with a larger population and more lake water figures a fifty million dollar business based on these sports. The bulk of the hunting and high country fishing in both States occurs in the National Forests. Hunting and fishing are controlled by the States to protect species, provide opportunities for the enjoyment of these popular sports, and to encourage the harvest of surplus animals by the hunting public. The Forest Service cooperates with the State Game and Fish Department—in habitat improvements, game and range surveys, and annual hunting plans—to keep wildlife on the National Forests on a sustained yield basis.

In 1959 on the National Forests of the Southwest . . .

152 acres of new lakes were developed.

20,000 acres of lakes were treated by the States to improve fishing.

33 new watering places for wildlife were developed, 19 by the States, 14 by the Forest Service.

A wildlife coordination management plan was completed for each National Forest in the Region.

Stream improvement structures were put in to make new pools and riffles on 12 miles of fishing streams in New Mexico by the State Game and Fish Department.

Over $100,000 was spent by the Forest Service and the State Game and Fish Departments to improve habitat for wildlife.

MULTIPLE-USE MANAGEMENT PLANS

A fast growing population, more people turning to the outdoors for relaxation, the lumber industry needing more National Forest timber, the expanding use of water, and the need to improve forage conditions for both wildlife and livestock — all these are bringing pressures and problems on the Southwestern National Forests of a magnitude never felt before. The job of achieving harmonious use of the several resources, for the greatest public benefits is becoming more complex. One thing is evident: all functions of National Forest management will have to be greatly intensified if these lands are to contribute their full potential to the economy of the Southwest and the happiness of its people.

In recognition of this situation, the Forest Service is preparing a revised, up-to-date Multiple-Use Management Plan for each Forest Ranger District in the Southwestern Region. The objective is to coordinate the resources of these public lands—water, wood, wildlife, range and recreation—so as to make multiple use work on as many acres as possible.

In 1959, revised Multiple-Use Management Plans were completed and approved for the Gallup Ranger District, Cibola National Forest, and Mormon Lake Ranger District, Coconino National Forest. Plans were started for 5 other Ranger Districts. By July 1, 1960 there will be at least one revised Ranger District Multiple-Use Management Plan completed on every Forest and by July 1, 1961, the objective is to have new plans finished and in operation on every District in the Region.

NATIONAL FOREST WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

In 1959 the Forest Service . . .

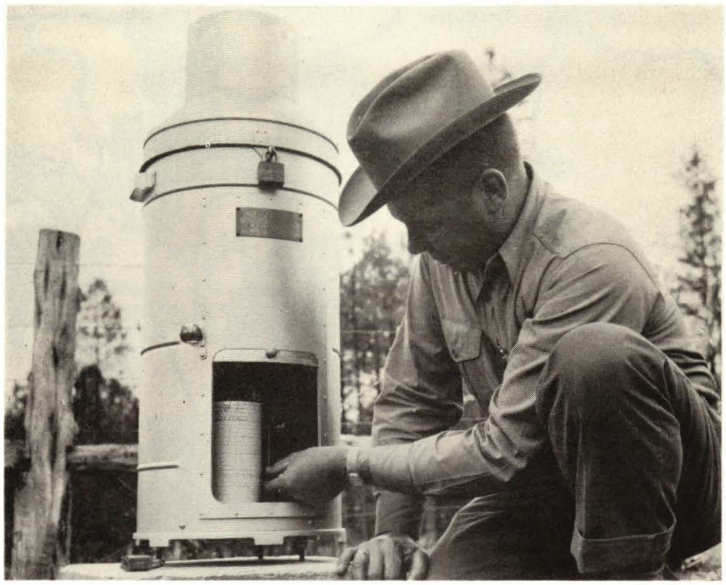
. . . in cooperation with Soil Conservation Districts and the Soil Conservation Service continued work on several watershed rehabilitation projects under Public Law 566. These include the Upper Rio Penasco and Prop Canyon projects, which embrace 100,000 acres of Lincoln and Cibola National Forests respectively. Land treatment was begun on the Frye Creek-Stockton Wash project (Coronado National Forest) containing 89,000 acres; and the Pecos Arroyo and Santa Cruz projects (Santa Fé National Forest including 69,600 acres) were approved for treatment. It is expected that funds for these projects will be provided in time for an early start in fiscal year 1961. Another PL-566 project, Pojoaque Creek, has reached the Departmental review stage, and although planning has been suspended, it is hoped that it will be revived at an early date. About 46,000 acres of Santa Fe National Forest are included in this project. The Forest Service also cooperated with the Soil Conservation Service in a field examination of other proposed PL-566 projects.

. . . reseeded with grasses some 30,000 acres to reduce watershed damage from the two biggest fires of the year, the Boulder and Pranty fires on the Tonto National Forest.

. . . continued progress on the Beaver Creek, Burro Mountain and Willow Creek watershed projects of Arizona. These are long-term pilot projects to learn costs, know-how and effects of various kinds of vegetative manipulation on the multiple National Forest resources including water production. These studies are being conducted in the several climatic zones of the Southwest.

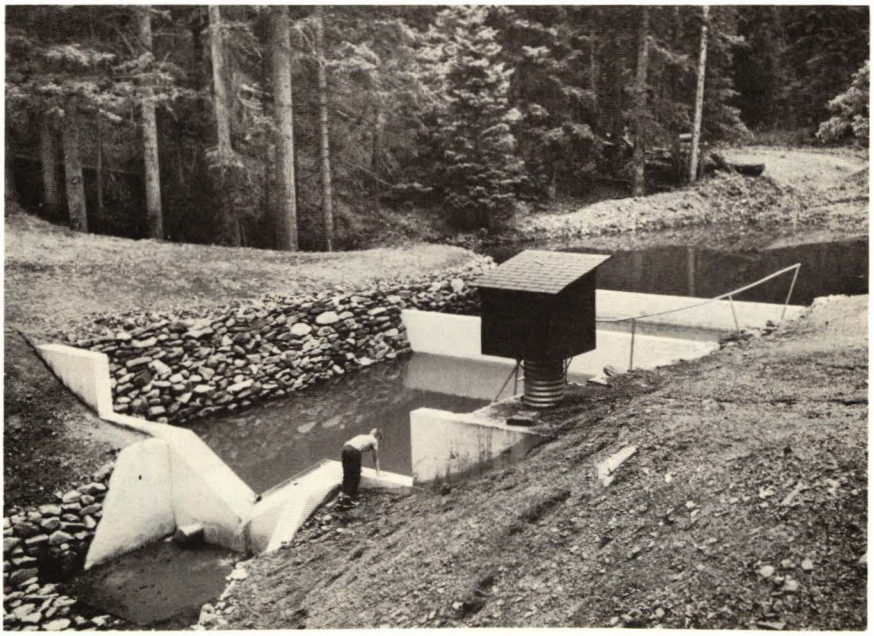
Beaver Creek, Coconino National Forest: In 1959, juniper was removed from 3000 acres and 960 of these acres seeded. Two new flumes were installed to gage stream flow along with four standard and four recording precipitation gages to measure rainfall. Fifteen miles of roads were constructed and four miles improved. Directional and informational signs were erected. Timber

stand manipulation included thinning 2000 acres; poisoning 2100 acres to simulate a pulpwood cut; and pruning of 21,000 trees on 700 acres. Also, 10 additional photo points and 66 forage measurement transects were established.



Forest Ranger checks recording rain gage

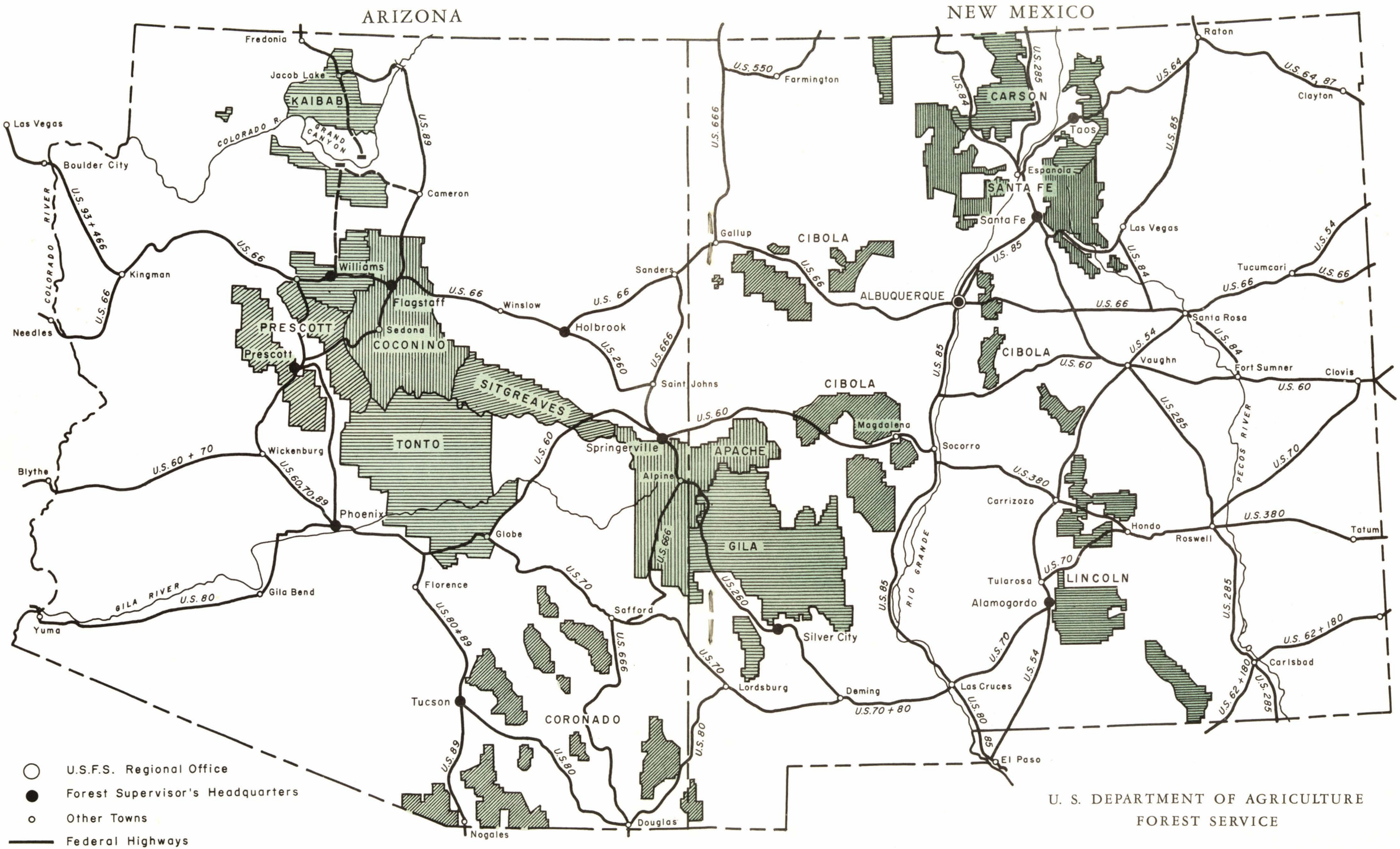
Burro Mountain and White Mountain, Apache National Forest: Actual treatment was concentrated on the Burro Mountain Project and consisted of removal of saw timber and pulp trees in varying degrees from selected watersheds. Access roads were constructed to two weirs on Willow Creek. Flow records were collected from two Castle Creek and two Willow Creek - Campbell Blue Stream gages.



V-Notch Weir in operation on Burro Mountain Watershed

THE NATIONAL FORESTS IN ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO

THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

NATIONAL FOREST SOIL SCIENCE

In 1959 a detailed survey of the 270,000-acre Beaver Creek Watershed in Arizona was completed. This was the second pilot area to be analyzed in the region, bringing the total area so far soil-surveyed to ¾ of a million acres.

Information from the soil surveys and related studies has been applied to project work in 1959 such as reseeding, road construction and watershed rehabilitation. In addition, studies were made on the relationship of soils to pine and spruce encroachment of mountain meadow land. Data secured from the previous Zuni Mountains Soil Survey (New Mexico) was integrated into the Gallup Ranger District multiple-use management plan. This plan is the prototype of ones eventually to be prepared for all districts in the region so that Forest Rangers have a clear picture of soil potentials of all the land under their jurisdiction as a basis for sound management decisions. How to gain fuller use of soils data in land management planning and resource management will continue to receive major attention.

NATIONAL FOREST LANDOWNERSHIP, ADJUSTMENT AND STATUS

In 1959 the Forest Service . . .

. . . determined the total miles of boundary between National Forest lands and lands of other ownership in need of identification and marking. This information will be used to establish a long-range boundary survey and posting program.

. . . completed 5,755,000 acres of the surface rights determination program on mining claims as provided by Public Law 167 enacted in 1955. This is about 30% of the 19 million acres in the Region which have needed this determination—a job now 90% complete. When finished, this program will identify the mining claims on which the Forest Service has legal authority to use and manage the surface resources insofar as they are not in conflict with actual mining operations.

. . . completed the classification of lands within the National Forests of the Region to identify those private lands most suitable for National Forest status, and the National Forest land that should be exchanged to make room for the orderly expansion of growing communities and to secure a more desirable consolidation of ownerships. The classification serves as a guide for immediate as well as long range action programs to bring about needed adjustments in land ownership.

. . . completed or brought to near completion the exchange of 5900 acres of National Forest land for 13,500 acres of privately-owned lands with the result that federal lands were made available for needed urban development and wild lands formerly in private ownership were given National Forest status.

. . . made substantial progress in negotiating large exchanges which would bring into National Forest status some 30,000 acres of the so-called Aztec lands situated across the Sitgreaves National Forest of Arizona in a checkerboard pattern and some 70,000 acres of State institutional land located within the New Mexico portion of the Apache National Forest.

NATIONAL FOREST ENGINEERING

An important division in the Forest Service organization is Engineering, the people who build and design Forest Service roads, buildings, bridges, lookouts, dams, signs and other structures, the people who draw Forest Service maps, take care of many other jobs having to do with cartography, aerial photos, surveying, and photo reproduction.

In 1959 these people, working with the individual National Forest personnel and construction contractors, built:

8 Forest Ranger dwellings

3 offices

6 warehouses

3 miscellaneous utility buildings

2 crew quarters

2 duplex apartments

32 reinforced concrete bridges

3 lookouts - 14 x 14 steel cab and towers

1224 signs

New Forest Ranger residence

They also completed:

500 sq. mi. of topographic mapping required for timber studies, administrative and recreation sites, and forest road location and design.

7800 sq. mi. of planimetric mapping.

Recreationists and sportsmen maps comprising some 3,000,000 acres.

12,000 sq. mi. of aerial photography required for mapping and administration of the National Forests.

Tellurometer surveys (using a new electronic distance-measuring device) for:

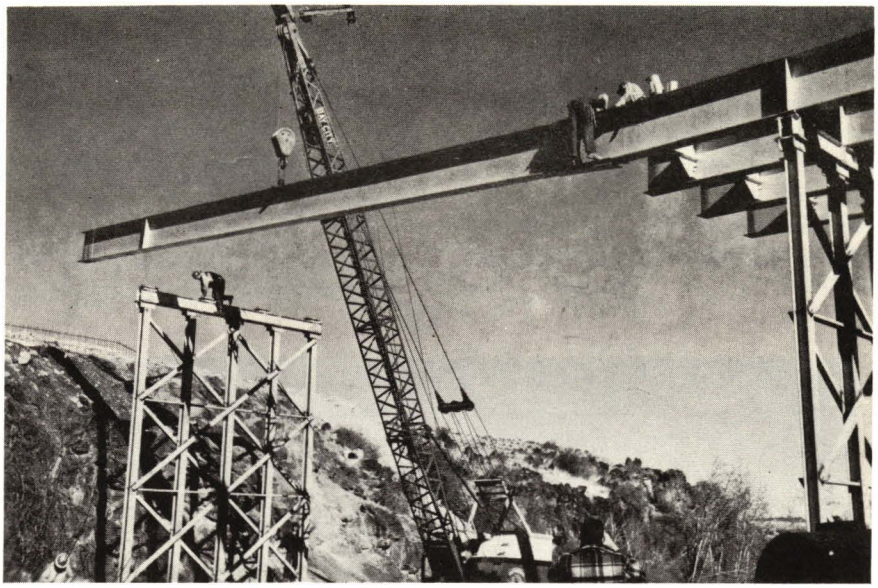
140 miles of access roads

2640 sq. mi. of mapping. Distance measurements were made of over 5,000 lineal miles.

Ninety-two stock dams were checked for spillway adequacy, and plans were reviewed and engineer's reports prepared for seven special-use dams to be constructed on the National Forests.

The 10%-of-receipts fund for roads and trails enabled Forest Service Engineers to build 163

miles of new National Forest roads in 1959. Another 210 miles were constructed by timber purchasers as part of their purchase contracts. Though these are roads built for timber access, they open up vast areas to hunting and fishing and other recreation use, improve forest fire control and administration, and lead to greater use of the National Forests by the public.



Bridge construction on a National Forest

FIRE CONTROL

In 1959, the Southwestern Region had 2500 fires, almost 800 more than any other region. About 90% of the 34,000 acres burned were lost in two fires, the Boulder and Pranty burns on the Tonto National Forest. A great help in keeping this large number of fires to a relatively low acreage burned has been the increased use of air attack on fires, through a combination of borate-dropping tanker planes, helicopters, smokejumpers, heli-jumpers, specialized equipment to work with these men and machines, and the construction of many new heli-spots at strategic locations. Efforts of this nature were concentrated in the southern National Forests of the region where aerial attack is most effective and needed. Plans are now being made for a more extensive aid and ground program in 1960.

Increased emphasis was placed on training, fire prevention and law enforcement in 1959. Seventy-four of the newer forest officers were trained in the Fundamentals of Fire Behavior. One hundred twenty-six of the more experienced men (all district rangers and fire staff officers) were trained in Adanced Fire Behavior. Thirty-six attended law enforcement training sessions.

The increased interest and emphasis on law enforcement has resulted in the successful closing of several civil cases that have been open for a number of years. Carson National Forest officers issued 93 citations on one ranger district for leaving campfires during the 1959 hunting season.

The region also set a new record in assisting other Forest Service regions and other agencies by furnishing organized Indian and Spanish-American firefighters from New Mexico and Arizona. In all, 4125 of the trained men were sent to help fight forest fires on the National Forests in California and Colorado. The National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management also received assistance from these trained crews.

Indian fire-fighter in action

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

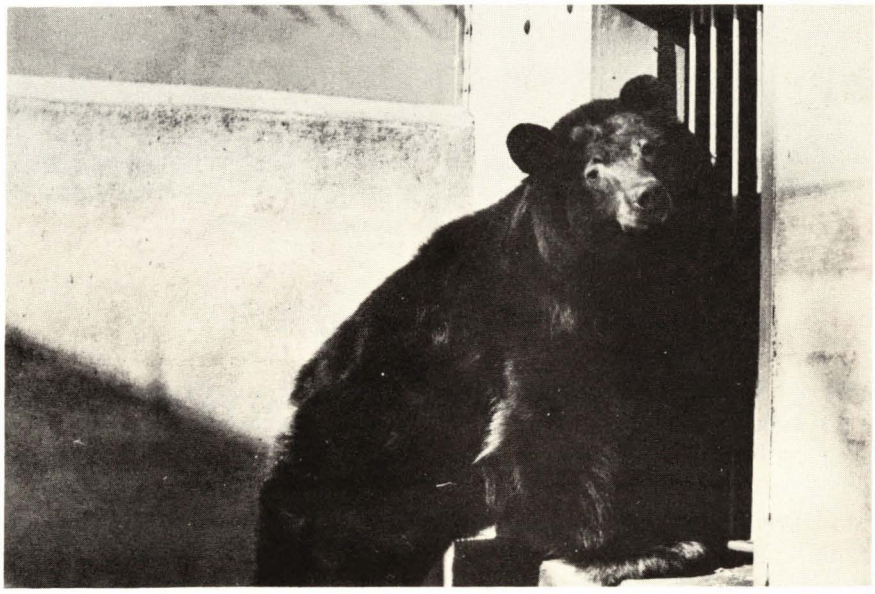
The State and Private Forestry program in the region is beginning to show results. The New Mexico State Forester has established two districts and added 2 professional men and an assistant to his staff. New Mexico has made a start in the cooperative fire control program and has plans to get into the cooperative programs on tree planting and private owner forest management.

The Forest Service, at the request of the Governor of Arizona, is now making a study of that State, as authorized under the Clark-McNary Act, to determine the type of program the State might need in fire protection and forestry.

State and Private Forestry is also responsible for directing the cooperative efforts for Rural Fire Defense. A radiological monitoring training program has been conducted in New Mexico and another one is planned for Arizona.

OPERATION

Because of increasing workloads on the National Forests, two new Forest Ranger districts were formed during 1959. On the Lincoln National Forest, New Mexico, the Mayhill and Cloudcroft Ranger Districts boundaries were revised to permit the establishment of the new Weed District. Headquarters for the new district were temporarily established at Mayhill until proper improvements can be constructed at Weed. Also on the Lincoln National Forest the Capitan Ranger District, Capitan Ranger Station, Block Fire Lookout and Capitan Pass were renamed Smokey Bear in honor of the famous burned bear cub that was rescued from the Capitan Mountains after the disastrous 17,000 acre forest fire of 1950. On the Carson National Forest the Taos and Tres Piedras Ranger Districts boundaries were revised to permit the establishment of the new Questa District. Headquarters buildings in the new, modern design have been constructed in the mouth of Red River Canyon, about a mile from the village of Questa, New Mexico.



Smokey poses in front of his home, National Zoo, Washington, D. C.

PERSONNEL

In 1959 full-time employees of the Forest Service reached an all-time high in the Region at 816, an increase of 90 over 1958. A total of 176 new permanent employees were recruited and employed, 23 of whom were professional foresters, 3 range conservationists, 2 business manager trainees and 18 professional engineers. Engineers are still at a premium and recruiting continues.

Summer employees included 21 forestry school students and 49 engineering students associated with 21 colleges throughout the United States. These students represent potential rangers and staff engineers.

In 1959 ten cash incentive awards amounting to $1900 were presented to employees in recognition of outstanding performance; and 16

cash awards totalling $490 were presented to employees who suggested or invented devices or procedures to improve operations.

Accelerated training efforts brought tangible results in 1959. Individual training and career development plans have now been completed for about 85% of all Southwestern Region 3 career personnel. Each plan is tailored to the individual, not only pin-pointing areas in which the man or woman needs additional training and experience in the present job, but also considering his or her ambitions for advancement or transfer to other positions. This is part of the continuing effort to develop all employees toward their highest potential for public service.

COMMUNICATIONS

In 1959, the Sitgreaves National Forest radio system was changed to a "high band" (170 mc.) frequency. This is the seventh forest in the region to be so changed, as a part of the program begun five years ago to avoid the interference problems inherent in the "low band" (40 mc.) systems. The reflection of low band frequencies which causes this interference is in turn caused by sunspots, which are most troublesome every eleven years. The regional plan and goal is to have all forests converted to high band before the next sunspot peak, which will be about 1968. Therefore, replacement of overaged and obsolete low band equipment has been done on a forest priority basis at the rate of about one forest each two years. An aircraft radio system was initiated in order to permit greater and more extensive use of fire-retardent solution drops in air attacks on forest and range fires.

Fire control officer radios in for more help

SAFETY

In 1959 the Southwestern Region set a new record in performing its many hazardous operations safely. The accident frequency rate for the year was 2.95 lost-time accidents per million man-hours worked. This is below the Forest Service's national goal-rate of 5.00 and is less than half the previous record rate for the region. For 4 consecutive months (August through November) there were no lost-time accidents.

FISCAL CONTROL

Timber sales made up the largest part of the almost three million dollars earned by Southwestern National Forests in 1959. Actual amounts taken in during Fiscal Year 1959 were:

Timber Sales	$1,990,030.03
Grazing Fees	866,037.73
Land Use	101,853.46
Power Line Right-of-way	4,933.82
Non-locatable Minerals	1,027.54
Total	$2,963,882.58

By law, one-fourth of this money is returned to the States for use on schools and roads in the counties having National Forest land. Another 10% is used for building roads and trails within the National Forests.

The Fiscal Control Division of the region also completed in 1959 a changeover to automatic electronic equipment for many of its accounting, purchasing and payroll operations.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

In 1959 the Southwestern Region . . .

Published:

Recreation map-folders for the Coronado National Forest, Arizona, and the Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico.

Booklets

TIME FOR ACTION IN THE WOODS (proceedings of Southwestern Timberland Owners' Conference)

FACTS — SOUTHWESTERN REGION NATIONAL FORESTS

FORESTS AND WATER

NATIONAL FOREST WATERSHED PROJECTS IN ARIZONA

Distributed some 20,000 pieces of conservation material including charts, booklets, maps, etc. to schools, youth groups, women's organizations, garden clubs and other segments of the public. This included a very popular exhibit and handout booth for materials at the New Mexico State Teachers' Convention in Albuquerque.

Showed 50 Forest Service motion pictures a total of 2400 times to an estimated audience of 250,000. This does not include Forest Service film shows on TV. As usual, the most popular film proved to be "Little Smokey" narrated by Hopalong Cassidy.

Distributed some 32,000 pieces of Smokey Bear forest fire prevention material including posters, bookmarks, comic books, radio platters and TV shorts.

Conducted an active program with service clubs, women organizations, youth groups, wildlife and sportsmen's associations and others to increase public understanding of National Forest values and Forest Service policies and objectives.

22 year old pine plantation, Panhandle Forest Unit, Texas

PANHANDLE FOREST UNIT

In addition to twelve National Forests, the Southwestern Region of the Forest Service also administers the Panhandle Forest Unit, 300,000 acres of Land Utilization Projects acquired by the Federal Government during the dust bowl days to aid in the rehabilitation of over-farmed arid rangelands in eastern New Mexico, north Texas and western Oklahoma. These lands are now being managed for suitable multiple uses—range, watershed protection, recreation and wildlife — from the Forest Unit headquarters in Amarillo. A supervisor and staff of five rangers administer this land which provides forage for 15,000 cattle, 1600 acres of lakes for irrigation, flood control and recreation (a quarter million recreation visits last year — mostly boating and fishing). These lands also provide a limited amount of public hunting of many kinds of wildlife. Deer, antelope, barbary sheep, ducks, geese, turkey, quail and other game birds may be hunted on these lands in accordance with State game laws. Receipts from the surface uses of the Panhandle Forest Unit were about $150,000 last year, and substantial additional income is also derived from the sale of subsurface mineral leases by the Bureau of Land Management.

PROGRAM FOR THE NATIONAL FORESTS

(*Objective: Greater Resource Yields and Services to Meet the Needs of the American People*)

In 1959, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson transmitted to Congress the Department's "Program for the National Forests." This program is a special action plan to vigorously step up the development, protection and management of the National Forests and land utilization projects administered by the Forest Service. It is designed to put the National Forests in better condition to contribute their full share toward meeting the spiraling demands of the American public for the products and services provided by the National Forests.

Under this program, the renewable resources of the National Forests would be more fully used. These public forests would become more productive, and continue to produce for all time, each resource in harmony with the other. This is the basic multiple-use policy. Such use is essential since many cities as well as large segments of agriculture and industry depend for their existence on water flowing from National Forest watersheds; hundreds of thousands of people earn their livelihood processing timber grown on National Forests; millions of domestic livestock graze on National Forest ranges; and many millions of people seek the National Forests for rest, relaxation, and spiritual uplift.

The program sets up long-range objectives looking to the year 2000 for both the National Forests and some 4.5 million acres of land utilization projects. It also outlines interim action proposals concerned with what needs to be done in the next 10-15 years to mesh with long-range objectives and meet current needs.

To meet "Program Goals" set for the Southwestern Region National Forests for the initial 12 year period will require an expenditure of approximately $145 million dollars to cover cost of non-recurrent work. In addition, eleven million would be needed annually for normal maintenance.

A pamphlet detailing the Program for the National Forests by states may be obtained upon request to your local Forest Service Office or Regional Forester, U. S. Forest Service, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

THE IMMEASURABLE VALUE OF NATIONAL FORESTS

. . . It's comforting to be reasonably self-supporting, but the National Forests were not established to make money. The Forest Service does not measure all of the values of the National Forests in terms of dollars. Which of you can measure in dollars the value of a quiet forest to soothe nerves high strung by the noise and pressure of city life? How can you measure in dollars and cents the value of well-kept watersheds when water is worth whatever you have to pay to get it? What sort of dollar formula can you use to measure the value of raw materials that keep industries going, provide jobs, keep families together, help stabilize community existence? Who among you can put a dollar value on the sound of happy laughter of children playing beside a forest stream?"

RICHARD E. McARDLE
Chief, Forest Service

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PREVENT
FOREST FIRES